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To:

Examiner Fortuna, USPTO, Fax No. (703) \$72 - 9539

From:

RICHARD P. 311

SILVERMAN

Date:

8 September 2003

Subject:

Signed copy of Response as originally filed on

Pursuant to the telephone request of today by Examiner Fortuna, enclosed is a copy of the RCE and Amendment as originally filed on August 11, 2003. We have also included the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission acknowledgements for each paper.

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Page 001

TO:Auto-reply fax to 704 331 7707 COMPANY:

## **Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission**



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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number 10/070,622 Application Number March 4, 2002 Filing Date Achim KOHLER et al. First Named Inventor 1731 Art Unit Fortuna, J. Examiner Name 1999CH017 Attorney Docket Number

Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address to: Commissioner for Patents Box RCE Washington, DC 20231 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.
1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114
a. Previously submitted
i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on
II. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on
lii. Other
b. Landosed
i. Amendment/Reply
ti. Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) iv. Other
2. Miscellaneous
Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(f) required)
b. Other
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filled.
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 03-2060
i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
ill. Other
b. Check in the amount of \$enclosed
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED
Name (Print/Type)   Richard & Megean   Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)   36,277
Signeture Date 9-11-65
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mall in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.
Name (Print/Type)   Vicki Scro.

Page I of 2 Page I of 2

This collection of information is required by 97 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or tetain a banefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Weshington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, cell 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.